

at least one of the selecting switch sections comprise:

a buffer section for receiving delayed input signal from one of the delay stages; and

a selecting section means directly connected to the buffer section for activating the buffer section to establish the delay path, wherein an output signal from the delay path has a desired delay time.

26. (Twice Amended) A semiconductor integrated circuit device comprising:

a delay section having two or more predetermined delay stages, each predetermined delay stage adds a predetermined delay time to an input signal; and

selecting switch sections, wherein at least one of the selecting switch sections comprise:

a buffer section for receiving delayed input signal from one of the delay stages; and

a selecting section means directly connected to the buffer section for activating the buffer section to establish the delay path, wherein an output signal from the delay path has a desired delay time.

29. (Twice Amended) A delay method comprising:

a delay step in which predetermined delay times are sequentially added onto an input signal to obtain delay signals;

a selecting step for obtaining one of the delay signals in the delay step which has a desired delay time; and

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Concl'd an output step in which one of the delay signals in the delay step is output by activating the selecting step.

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Please add claim 32 as follows:

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32. (New) A delay circuit comprising:

C4 a delay section having two or more predetermined delay stages each of which is provided with an individual delay input terminal for inputting a signal to which predetermined delay time is added, the signal inputted to each predetermined delay stage having substantially uniform rise delay time and fall delay time, and

6 selecting switch means for establishing the delay path for the input signal by selecting one of the delay stages,

wherein an output signal from the delay path has a desired delay time.

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#### REMARKS

The above amendments and the following remarks are fully and completely responsive to the Office Action dated July 2, 2002. Claims 1-2 and 4-32 are pending in this application, with claim 3 cancelled and claim 32 added by the present amendment. In the outstanding Office Action, claim 3 was objected to; claims 1-3, 16-18, 26 and 29-31 were rejected under 35 USC §102(b); and claims 4-15, 19-25 and 27-28 were rejected under 35 USC §103(a). No new matter has been entered. Claims 1-2 and 4-32 are presented for consideration.